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~~DECLASSIFIED~~Authority EO 12958By R-T NARA Date 7-5-87

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FM MR. LORD

TO MR. HODD

TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE
EXCLUSIVELY EYES ONLY

JANUARY 29, 1973

TO: MR. HODD

FROM: MR. LORD

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO YOUR CUSTOMER.
BEGIN TEXT.

1. THE UNITED STATES AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM HAVE AGREED TO SEEK INFORMALLY THE VIEWS OF APPROPRIATE COUNTRIES WITH RESPECT TO THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ESTABLISHED BY THE AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIETNAM. ACCORDINGLY, THE U.S. SIDE WOULD APPRECIATE LEARNING WHETHER THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA WOULD BE WILLING TO PARTICIPATE IN THIS CONFERENCE. IT IS ENVISAGED THAT THE MEETING WOULD TAKE PLACE STARTING ON FEBRUARY 26, AT THE FOREIGN MINISTERS LEVEL. THE UNITED STATES AND THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM WILL ISSUE FORMAL INVITATIONS, TOGETHER WITH FURTHER DETAILS, ONCE THE INFORMAL VIEWS OF THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED HAVE BEEN ASCERTAINED.

2. THE U.S. SIDE WISHES TO EMPHASIZE THAT IT WOULD BE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT FOR PEACE AND STABILITY IN SOUTHEAST ASIA TO BRING ABOUT AT LEAST A TEMPORARY, DE FACTO CEASEFIRE IN CAMBODIA. THE CHINESE SIDE WILL HAVE NOTICED THAT THERE HAS BEEN A UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF AN END TO OFFENSIVE ACTION BY THE GOVERNMENT OF LOM NOL. THE U.S. WILL ADHERE TO THIS AS LONG AS ALL OTHER SIDES DO THE SAME. THE U.S. SIDE WOULD APPRECIATE IT VERY MUCH IF THE CHINESE SIDE COULD USE ITS INFLUENCE FOR RESTRAINT IN CAMBODIA, AT LEAST UNTIL THERE IS THE OCCASION TO DISCUSS THIS MATTER DURING DR. KISSINGER'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO CHINA.

3. THE CHINESE SIDE MAY HAVE NOTICED CERTAIN COMMENTS BY A U.S. OFFICIAL ON A RECENT TELEVISION INTERVIEW PROGRAM WITH RESPECT TO THE ROLE OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE VIETNAM NEGOTIATIONS. SUCH REMARKS REFLECT THE PERENNIAL BUREAUCRATIC DIFFICULTIES WITH WHICH THE CHINESE SIDE IS FAMILIAR. STRICT INSTRUCTIONS HAVE BEEN ISSUED THAT UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES ARE SUCH MISLEADING COMMENTS TO BE REPEATED BY U.S. OFFICIALS.

End text.

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